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We print in this number two schemes for co-operative indexing of current periodicals, one of them for a monthly index to be included in the card catalog, the other for an annual index to be included in the printed quinquennial. We hope both schemes will be carried out.

The magnificent success of the co-operative band ably led by Mr. Poole justifies—nay, demands—new expeditions. But his plan does not meet a much felt want for *current* references. There is full as much inquiry for the article published “a few months ago” as for the one published last year; and the task of looking over the files of unbound periodicals to ascertain which one contained such and such a piece is not the less tedious because it is frequently repeated. The two proposals do not interfere in the least with one another. Indeed they will work together. There is no reason why the libraries that write Mr. Stetson's monthly cards should not send one copy to Mr. Poole for his annual list. The expense, which has been

spoken of as an objection, is no greater, so far as writing the slips goes, for Mr. Stetson than for Mr. Poole, and one writing will do for both. All that Mr. Stetson's plan demands beyond this is the cost of printing by the hectograph and of sending by mail, which will be repaid half a dozen times over to the co-operating libraries by the usefulness of the result. If twenty libraries join, each taking two periodicals, two hours' work each month and 60 cents postage (at the new two-cent rate) will give it an index to forty of the most valuable monthlies and quarterlies. A library must be very little used not to find that a good bargain.

Now that the co-operative method has been proved entirely practicable, it ought to be very much extended. We American libraries are proud of our work in the new index. But, after all, have we a right to be proud as Americans? There are over 3000 libraries in the country, and only 43 took part in this great work, by which all are so much benefited. It is almost disgraceful. And now that it is not necessarily a question of taking a long set of a hundred volumes, but a small library can afford real help by taking one periodical for one year with a year to do it in, the number of volunteers ought to be greatly enlarged.

LAST year there was a series of articles on the Boston libraries in the *Globe*, in no. 6 of which (Sept. 10) was the remarkable statement that “the libraries of Boston contain more volumes in the aggregate [1,101,500] than do all the public libraries of Great Britain, and there are more books in the fourth largest library of this city [State library 50,000] than are to be found in the largest public library in the British Empire.” Mr. E. C. Thomas would have something to say to this; for the result is arrived at by including 250,000 volumes in the libraries of Harvard University, at Cambridge, among the Boston

libraries, and by excluding the British Museum, "owing to the peculiar circumstances governing the use of the books." It is fair enough to include the University libraries, one of which is in Boston, and the others nearer the centre of the city than the British Museum is to the London Institution. But if this comparison is ever quoted it should be with the distinct statement that on the British side the British Museum, which alone contains more volumes than all the Boston libraries together, is left out. And even then it should be noted that the result is obtained by comparing *all* the not-private libraries of Boston, public, proprietary, collegiate, club, circulating, with only the technically "public" libraries of England, excluding, that is, the proprietary, club, college, and circulating. Now one of the circulating libraries of London advertises that its permanent stock exceeds a million of volumes.

IN *Notes and queries* for Oct. 7 we find the following remarks on the report of the Cincinnati Conference:

"In reading attentively the many suggestive papers presented by members of both sexes, working amid very varied local surroundings, we are struck alike with the much greater personal interest which American librarians take in the frequenters of their libraries, and with the more inquisitorial character of the attention which they pay to the reading carried on by them. With regard to children this may be well, and it does one good to read of the bright faces of intelligent boys and girls when engaged in friendly talk with the librarian. But the embodiment in a long series of questions to be filled up by a librarian of a query as to the character of a reader's studies strikes us as open to grave objections. In scarcely any case of an adult reader can we conceive such a query to be of practical utility, and it might very naturally give rise to extremely erroneous impressions. The controversy as to the inclusion or exclusion of fiction still rages, we perceive, and for aught we can see is likely to go on raging until it dies a natural death, if only it is permitted such a blessed end."

Not knowing any American library which makes inquisitorial investigations into the character of the reading of its adult patrons, and not being able to recollect that any advice looking to the establishment of an Inquisition was given at Cincinnati, we were somewhat puzzled by this criticism, till it occurred to us that Mr. Linderfelt, in showing the various capabilities of his system of charging, inserted in the list of twenty possible questions to which it could give answers (*Lib. jnl.*, 7 : 182):

19. What has been the character of a person's reading?

The twenty questions were not meant to be

printed on a blank to be answered by the librarian day by day in the regular course of his work. Mr. Linderfelt merely wished to show what he could do if any occasion should arise. The same question could be answered by any of the old ledger charging systems, but we never heard of any impertinent interference by librarians with their readers' taste. Occasionally some one will go to the old records to find what Daniel Webster, or Edward Everett, or Charles Sumner read when he was in college. Indeed, if we remember right, there is the result of such an inquiry in one of the lives of Byron. But we can assure our English critic that the American Library Association has no intention of setting up the Confessional or the Inquisition, and that the adult American has in his reading at public libraries as much liberty as the American Young Girl or male Young America.

COMMUNICATIONS.

POOLE'S INDEX.

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

IN my report on the *Index to Periodical Literature*, made at the Cincinnati meeting of the American Library Association in May last, I stated that I should esteem it a favor to be informed of any errors or omissions which may be found in its pages; for I had long since divested myself of that pride of accuracy, which imagines that such a work can be made and printed without errors. Because I did not repeat this statement in my preface, the writer of the notice of the Index in the *Nation* of Jan. 18 is, and perhaps others may be, in doubt whether the notification of errors and lapses will be esteemed a favor or otherwise. I beg, therefore, to repeat here what was stated in my report, and to say that the editors have been especially solicitous that the references should be free from errors, and have spared no labor and care to render them so. Contributions to its errata will be thankfully received, and omissions will be included in the next supplement.

W. F. POOLE.

ERRATA ET CORRIGENDA.

I SUGGEST the addition to the *Library journal* of a department of *Errata et Corrigenda*. This would involve some labor, but it would be helpful in many ways.

Many books of high reputation contain typographical or other mistakes which the ordinary reader may not detect or have the means of correcting.

I would propose to include only important works and to confine the corrections to those whose existence and rectification would not be apparent to a reader of ordinary intelligence.

In Dr. Hurst's *Bibliotheca theologica*, just

issued, I find on page 136, Hamburg, where, of course, intelligent persons will read Hanbury. Albert Barnes, in his commentary, speaking of the miracle at Cana, quotes Pliny on the subject of wine, and refers his reader to Book IV., chap. 13. A classical friend of mine says that the passage referred to does not contain anything about wine. Most persons will accept his citation without question.

It is within the proper sphere of librarians to correct such errors in books under their care, and of the *Library Journal* to disseminate the knowledge of them.

JOHN EDMANDS.

[If our friends will send us notes of such emendations as they discover we will publish them from time to time, when enough have accumulated to justify a departmental heading.—EDS.]

SCHEME FOR ANNUAL INDEXES TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

IN accordance with the announcement in the preface of the late issue of the "Index to Periodical Literature," supplements prepared on the same coöperative method, with the same rules and conditions, and printed in a style uniform with that edition, will be issued every five years—the first appearing early in the year 1887, and containing the references for the years 1882-1886. It is the intention of the editors to enlarge considerably the list of current periodicals, and to include such older serials as are worthy of being indexed and have been omitted. The editors will be glad to receive from the former contributors and other librarians who are willing to participate in the work, suggestions as to serials which they think it desirable to index.

In addition to the announcement made above, the editors are proposing, if they have sufficient encouragement, to issue in April, 1884, an index covering the years 1882 and 1883, and thereafter ANNUAL INDEXES. They take this opportunity to set forth the scheme as it now presents itself to their minds, and to ask of their brethren in the library profession its consideration, and such suggestions for improving it as will enable them to fix upon the plan which shall be most practicable and satisfactory to the libraries of the country.

It is not probable that annual indexes will repay in money the cost of their publication, and hence no publisher can be expected to assume the expense. It is certain that the multiplicity of alphabets in annual indexes would be a great annoyance. Their adoption as permanent substitutes for the five-year supplements is, therefore, out of the question. It is very desirable, nevertheless, that the contents of the current periodicals shall be indexed and made accessible oftener than once in five years. So important to readers and students are the topics discussed in them, that many libraries are incurring the labor and expense of indexing them

on cards. The coöperative plan of making hectographic copies and interchanging cards between different libraries is attended with much trouble, and under no conditions can it cover so broad a field as is desirable. In order to meet this want in a more economical and satisfactory manner, the editors propose the following scheme:

1. To issue the annual indexes in a privately printed edition, to be supplied only to the co-operating libraries, and such other libraries and individuals as subscribe for them in advance of publication. No more copies will be printed than will meet this condition; and hence none will be offered for sale.

2. The expense of printing will be equitably shared by the contributing libraries and the subscribers—the latter paying, in any event, twice as much for their copies as the contributors, and if they are twice as numerous as the contributors, they will pay the whole expense.

3. The editors will make no charge for their services in the revision and arrangement of the work, and superintendence of the printing, but will be entitled to the use of the matter for their five-year supplements.

4. On the year when a five-year supplement is issued there will be no annual supplement, as the references of the preceding year will be incorporated in that issue. The annual issues not being regarded as the regular supplements of the main work, they will be printed on a smaller page.

W. F. POOLE.

W. I. FLETCHER.

COÖPERATIVE INDEXING OF CURRENT PERIODICALS.

It may be of interest to many librarians to learn of a coöperative scheme of indexing current periodicals. I will outline it briefly.

1. Each of the coöperating libraries will index one or more periodicals, each number as it appears.

2. The same rules will be observed as in Poole's Index, with this addition—the month and year will be added to facilitate reference to unbound numbers. Also American paging will be given if English editions are not accessible, marked with *a* for distinction.

3. As most (probably all) libraries will want the entries on cards or slips, each library will print the separate references by the hektograph on slips 5x12½ cm. (the standard size) and mail them to each of the coöperating libraries.

As to details of printing, I am not altogether satisfied what method is better—to print each slip separately, or to print in sheets of (say) eight slips. In the former case I make my "copy" on paper 20 cm. wide in two columns. It will not do to put all the copy on the hektograph at one time, and print the requisite number of slips from each reference; the latter ones become faint. I should say only two or three references should be put on the hektograph at one time. The time required for printing 300

slips (20 slips for each of 15 references) would be about 45 minutes (I printed 300 thin slips in 30 minutes). By ruling off a sheet into (say) 8 spaces, 5x12.5 cm., and writing references in these spaces, and printing 8 slips in a sheet at once, and cutting the sheets afterward, I think that the time would be lessened. Experience might show some other method to be more convenient than either of these.

The above details are the result of my own experience and of the suggestions of others, especially Mr. Biscoe, of Amherst College, Rev. J. H. Barbour, of Trinity College, and Mr. Geo. F. Winchester, of Middletown, Ct., with whose encouragement I have been trying to inaugurate some such scheme. It was our intention to begin where Poole's Index leaves off. But his annual supplement will make that unnecessary, so that we shall begin probably with Jan., 1883.

I should be pleased to hear from any one interested in this matter, especially from those desiring to index one periodical or more for 1883—most especially, however, from any man or body of men who will take the matter in charge and relieve me of it.

List of librarians who have announced their intention of coöperating with me: Mr. Biscoe, Amherst College; Rev. Mr. Barbour, Trinity College; Mr. Cutter, Boston *Athenæum*; Mr. Green, Worcester Public Library; Mr. Foster, Providence Public Library; Prof. Safford, Williams College.

W. K. STETSON,
Assistant Librarian Wesleyan University,
Middletown, Conn.

STANDARD COVERS FOR TEMPORARY BINDING.

By B. PICKMAN MANN, Bibliographical Editor
of *PSYCHE*.

THE vast majority of octavo books and pamphlets are 23 or 24 centimetres high. An unclassified list, taken from 150 consecutive entries in my accession book, shows that 2 per cent are 21 cm., high, 7 per cent 22 cm., 41 per cent 23 cm., 39 per cent 24 cm., and 11 per cent 25 cm.

In the temporary binding of pamphlets and papers it would be a great convenience to have the holes which are made in the papers placed at a previously determined and standard distance apart, so that transfers could be made at will, without the necessity of making new holes in the papers. Punched sheets, also, for shelf-lists, sermons, and other purposes, could be purchased ready-made at the stores, if these standard measurements were adopted; and especially it would be of advantage if the "Library binder" were made to conform to these measurements, while the "Russell's common-sense" and the "Emerson," though needing but two holes, could as well require these holes to occupy positions similar to the ones required for the other binders, as to conform, as seems to be the case, to no fixed rule.

I have looked through the indexes of my *Library journal*, 6 v., since working out a system for my own use, in the expectation of finding some word on this subject, but in vain. The nearest approach to it, and the occasion when it would have been most appropriate, is in Mr. F. B. Perkins' note entitled: "Transferable book-covers," *L. j.*, May 1881, 5: 146.

My system concerns only pamphlets and papers from 22 to 25 cm. high. Other systems would be appropriate for smaller and for larger pamphlets.

The papers are made to rest on their lower edges. The lowest hole is 2.5 cm. [1 inch] above this, the second hole 5 cm. [2 inches] above the first, the third hole 8.5 above the second, and the fourth hole 5 cm. above the third. The holes are to be used in pairs. A cord is passed through them from the front to the back of the volume, so that the free ends of the cords all hang out at the back of the book. The cord is to be passed first through the front cover and then through the papers. If additions are to be made only at the end of the book they can be strung on the cord as they are added without disturbing the papers previously bound. If it is desired to add title-pages or other matter at the beginning of the book, or nearer the front than the back, provision can be made for that by having separate cords in each hole, and having them joined by bow-knots both in front and behind. A standard distance of 5 cm. between the two holes of each pair allows the use of strips of wood, metal, or pasteboard, of uniform size, to bear the wear of the cord at each pair of holes separately if covers are not used. I hardly need dwell upon the advantages of having the two pairs of holes alike in measurement. The particular measurement proposed, 5 cm. or 2 inches, accords with both the English and the metric systems.

The lower hole should be near the lower edge of the papers, to support them better than if it was more distant. Experience has shown that the distance should not be more than 3 cm., nor less than 2 cm., as the lower margins of pamphlets are not always trimmed so that a hole made less than 2 cm. from the bottom would pass through all the pages. The distance 2.5 cm. accords with both the English and metric systems of measurement.

The upper hole should not be less than 1 cm. distant from the top of the paper, which is its distance in papers 22 cm. high, and yet should be as near the top as permissible, being near enough when it is 4 cm. distant in papers 25 cm. high.

I propose, therefore, as standard measurements, 2.5, 7.5, 16 and 21 cm. from the lower edge of the temporary covers and of the pamphlets.

P. S.—I will add that as less than 2 per cent of the books in a library are 26 cm. high, the measurements for an octavo pamphlet may well be adopted for these. For pamphlets from 27 to 31 cm. high, the measurements may be 2.5, 7.5, 21 and 26 cm.; for the still rarer pamphlets from 17 to 21 cm., the measurements 2.5, 7.5,

11 and 16. By these measurements it is possible, on special occasions, to intercalate a pamphlet among those to which, from its size, it does not belong.

LIBRARIES AND POLITICS.

A WESTERN librarian writes us: "I was very glad to see your comments upon the change of librarians in Indiana and Michigan, and trust you will not drop the matter entirely. The State of Ohio has a fine library of about 60,000 volumes, of which much could be made. Unfortunately, the librarian is changed every time a new governor is elected. The evil has not been so great as might have been anticipated, because the library has been practically in charge of a permanent and capable assistant. The present librarian has, however (properly, so far as I know), shown a disposition to manage things himself, and I understand that there is, or has been, some trouble. But the next administration is sure to appoint a new librarian before the present one has fully learned the duties of his office. It seems to me that you will confer a great boon upon many of our Western States if you can induce them to place their libraries in charge of a board of trustees similar to that of New York, with such permanent tenure of office as to remove any temptation to make political appointments.—*Nation*, Dec. 21.

[Gov. Begole, the new Governor of Michigan, we are glad to learn, though making a clean sweep in other offices, has sensibly and firmly resisted the pressure on him for the removal of Mrs. Tenney. She was renominated (for two years), and the Senate promptly confirmed her, to the great satisfaction of all who care for the library. EDS. LIB. JNL.]

LIBRARY STATISTICS.*

THE statistics of the chief libraries of the world, with which it closes, are the most satisfactory portion. They are brought down to the latest time, and Messrs. Tedder and Thomas's success in previous efforts of this kind makes it certain that they are trustworthy. Perhaps their work will repress for a time the erratic exuberance of the newspapers in this regard. Every one who is interested in the subject must have noticed the continual appearance of items on the number of volumes in the chief libraries, founded on the statistics sometimes of the last decade, sometimes of the last century, and sometimes of a distant future. At the risk of starting a new family of such paragraphs, and seeing statements which are true in 1832 repeated in 1892 or in 1902, when they will have been entirely falsified by the prodigious growth of libraries, we have prepared from the 8th and the 9th editions of the

* Part of a notice of the article "Libraries," in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, v. 14; from the *Nation*, Oct. 19.

"Encyclopædia" a comparative table of the number of libraries exceeding 100,000 at the two periods:

	1857.		1882.	
	No. of Libraries.	Volumes in Thousands.	No. of Libraries.	Volumes in Thousands.
Great Britain	6	1,413	12	3,296
France	8	1,801	15	4,528
Germany	19	4,289	45	11,340
Austria	4	780	7	1,744
Italy	8	2,431	25	4,162
America	0	0	12	2,305
The rest of the world....	9	1,950	31	6,518
	54	12,664	147	33,902

The ten principal libraries were, in

1857.	Vols.	1882.	Vols.
Imperial Library, Paris	815,000	Imperial Library, Paris	2,200,000
British Museum, London	562,000	British Museum, London	1,500,000
Imperial Library, St. Petersburg ..	519,500	Imperial Library, St. Petersburg ..	1,000,000
Royal Library, Berlin	500,000	Royal Library, Berlin	1,000,000
Royal Library, Munich	480,000	Royal Library, Munich	(?) 750,000
Royal Library, Copenhagen	408,000	University Library, Strassburg	513,000
Imperial Library, Vienna	365,000	University Library, Leipzig	500,000
University Library, Göttingen	360,000	Grand-ducal Library, Darmstadt	500,000
University Library, Breslau	350,000	Royal Library, Copenhagen	482,000
Royal Library, Dresden	305,000	Imperial Library, Vienna	440,000

C. A. C.

MORE CRUDITIES OF THE CHEAP CATALOGER.

"CANTERBURY has just issued a catalogue of its Municipal Free Library which is quite unique in its blunders. A local journal describes its vagaries. Horatius is described as being by Flaccus; Virgilii, by Maronis; Shakespeare's plays (under the heading of 'Fiction') are stated to be written by Edmund Malone; Thackeray's works (among the essays), by A. Pendennis and H. Esmond, as well as by himself. Ainsworth's 'Tower of London' is placed among the guide-books; of 'Robinson Crusoe' among the biographies; Knight's 'Old Printer' among fiction; Wellington's Despatches, Venn's 'Duty of Man,' and Vince's 'Conic Sections' among manners and customs; Thomson's 'Seasons' among the sundries, etc. Babbage is spelt 'Baggage,' and so on. These are only a few of the blunders taken haphazard from a hundred others not less ludicrous."—*Athenæum*.

Library Economy and History.

AMES, J. G., SPOFFORD, A. K., and BAIRD, Spencer F. Report regarding the publication and distribution of public documents, submitted in compliance with a resolution of the H. of R., adopted Aug. 8, 1882. Wash., 1882, 66 p. O.

An important report, followed by a tabulated statement of the documents ordered by the 46th and the 1st session of the 47th Congress, a compilation of the present laws, and a proposed bill and resolutions, framed with the view of establishing a single distributing agency, of insuring the delivery of complete sets to permanent depositories, of reducing the number printed, and of providing for convenient sale of documents.

GENNARI, A. Progetto di raccogliere tutti gli oggetti appartenenti all' Ariosto in una sala della Biblioteca di Ferrara. Ferrara, stabil. Bresciani, 1882. 11 p. 8°.

From the *Gazzetta ferrarese*, Nov. 5, 6, 1881.

HUBBARD, James M. [Letter, dated Nov. 9.] n. p., n. d. 4 p. O.

A review of the controversy on the character of the fiction in the Boston Public Library and a reiteration of the statement that the Library contains unsuitable books.

An article in the *Transcript* of Dec. 14 proposes that the objectionable fiction and juveniles should be divided "into small libraries to be placed in the various school-houses. The teachers could then have an oversight over the children's reading, and could restrict them to, say, a volume a week. These libraries might be exchanged every few months, and fresh books might be continually added."

LIBRARIES in churches. (In *Notes and q.*, 6th s., 6: 258, 9.)

The *Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire de Paris* (1882, no. 3) contains some curious documents concerning the dispersion (1642-52) of Mazarin's library during the Fronde.

THE LIBRARIES of Babylonia and Assyria, [by] a member of the Society of Biblical Archaeology. I. (In *Knowledge*, Nov. 24.) 1½ col.

PRIME, Wendell, D.D. The Bodleian Library, [account of a visit]. (In *Observer*, N. Y., Dec. 14.) 2 col.

THE PUBLIC Schools Library. (In *Spectator*, St. Louis, Dec. 16.) 1 col.

Advocates dropping the subscription feature and making the library a public free library; but thinks that the change should be very cautiously made. "Few persons know how expensive a thing a library is to run and how easy it is to seriously impair its usefulness."

St. Louis, taking this into account perhaps, has decided that it cannot afford a public library.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL libraries. (In *Sunday-School Times*, Nov. 11.)

Another sensible article, brought out by the question of a correspondent who says:

"Our teachers contemplate adding books to the library, and doing it so gradually that every book shall be carefully read and passed upon by a competent committee. Will you please outline in your columns a plan for the selection of books, which has proved valuable in other schools. By so doing you will probably confer a favor on other schools besides ours, which have found that poor books will be accepted when five hundred or a thousand volumes are selected and passed upon at one time. Even the author's name is not a guarantee that a book is a suitable one."

"One indispensable prerequisite to the securing of a good Sunday-school library is an understanding of the kind of books wanted in that library. And the recognition of this prerequisite is one of the rarest things in the Sunday-school field. What kind of books do you want in your Sunday-school library? 'Oh! we want good books.' What do you mean by good books? 'Why, we want books that the children will like, and that will do them good.' Well, but that is no description of books. That raises a question of *opinion*, rather than of *fact*. Do you want only books of fiction, or no books of fiction? or what proportion of books of fiction, and what proportion of books of fact? Do you want only books that state religious truths, or that illustrate Christian doctrine? or do you want also books which simply state facts in God's realm of nature, and in God's dealings with men in history? Do you approve of story-books which give prominence to love and courtship, if only there is a religious smack to the conversations introduced? Do you want books suited for Sunday reading? or books also for week-day reading? Until all these questions, and a score like them, can be answered with positiveness by those who are responsible for the scholar's reading, any attempt to secure 'good' books for the library, is the merest sham. Until you know what *you* mean by a 'good book' for the library, how can you expect a committee to find out what you mean, and conform to it? What nonsense it would be for you to send out a new servant to market, with no more specific orders than that for his purchases, 'Go and get some food for my children'? 'What kind of food?' 'Oh! good food.' 'But what do you mean by good food?' 'Why, good food, of course. Safe food; palatable food; nourishing food.' 'Yes, but that which is safe and palatable and nourishing for one person is not so for another. Would you like meats or vegetables, or both? If both, what kinds of each? Would you like beef? pork? mutton? veal? potatoes? cabbage? beans? tomatoes? What do you think is best suited to your children? You know them better

than I do.' 'Oh! I don't want to be tied down to details of that sort. Get good things. Fill up the larder off-hand. If I don't like what you get, I will scold about it. I shall have my eye on what you have bought, and be ready to complain if it doesn't suit me.' That is about the way with the average Sunday-school leader. That is the croaker's style of comment on the work of library committees generally. To begin with, know what you want. That is four fifths of the whole matter. Then get what you want. It is to be had. There is no lack of any kind of book that you can describe. But there is no such thing—there never was, and there never will be—as 'a good Sunday-school library book.' Whenever that is spoken of, you know there is gross carelessness, stupid ignorance, or wilful deception, on the part of the person who tells of it. Of course you cannot find out what a book is merely by seeing its publisher's name, or its author's name, or its illustrations, or type, or binding. The book must be read by some one who knows what kind of a book is wanted, and whether this book is one of that sort. Your committee must be large enough for this, intelligent enough for this, and must take time enough for this. Whoever reads a book for the purpose of testing it ought to report the aim, purport, and character of the book, rather than report whether it is a 'good book' or not. It is all right to have all the teachers hunting for books which they think will answer, and calling attention to them. But when these books are examined, the question must be, in every instance, 'What is this book?' not, 'Is this a "good" book?' Without attention to these main points, all talk about committees of ladies, and committees of examination, is—humbug."

T., S. The Bancroft library, San Francisco. (In *Ev'g post*, N. Y., Dec. 30.) 1½ col.

Abstracts of and extracts from Reports.

Harvard Univ. L. "The rows of classical philology as arranged include the subjects Mythology, Inscriptions, Miscellany, Bibliography, and Literary history, Greek and Roman arts and sciences, Prosody, and Greek and Roman philosophy. The Greek and Latin authors follow immediately."

The use on Sunday (1 to 5 P.M.) has increased. Mr. Scudder, Assistant Librarian (and member of the A. L. A. Cooperation Committee), has left the library to take the editorship of *Science*. The revision of the public subject catalogue has been nearly completed, the main headings reduced nearly one third in number, and an alphabetical subject-reference catalogue of all headings and subdivisions, both present and prospective (about 5000), prepared on slips with a view to ultimate publication.

WE may call attention here to Mrs. Oliphant's sketch of the heavenly library in her "Little pilgrim" in *Macmillan's mag.*, Sept., 1882, p. 341-345; reprinted Boston, Roberts, 1882.

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DEUTSCHE SHAKESPEARE-GESELLSCHAFT. Gesammt-Catalog der Bibliothek, vom Bibliothekar Reinhold Köhler. (Pages 53-82 of their *Shakespeare Jahrbuch*, Beilage zu Bd. 17, Weimar, 1882, 8°.)

DUFOUR, *Fabbé* Valentin. *Bibliographie artistique, historique, et littéraire de Paris*, année 1789. Paris, Laporte, 1882. 7+324+14 p. 8°.

GAIDOZ, H., and SÉBILLOT, Paul. *Bibliog. des traditions et de la littérature populaire de l'Alsace*. Strassb., Noiriél, 1882.

Rep. from *Polybiblion*. Contains the titles of about 40 books and 70 articles in periodicals.

GEOLOGICAL record for 1878; an account of the works on geology, mineralogy, and palaeontology, pub. during the year, with suppl. for 1874-7; ed. by W. Whitaker and W. H. Dalton. London, Taylor and Francis, 1882. 31+496 p. 8°. Subscription price 10s. 6d.

The notes are brief and to the point. 3530 nos., 850 more than in any of the previous four volumes.

GOMME, G.: Laurence. *Bibliography of folklore publications in English*. A, B. (Pages 55-80 of *Folk-lore record*, v. 5, 1882.)

To be continued. Calls for additions and corrections.

HARTFORD L. ASSOC. Bulletin. Vol. 5, no. 1. Hartford, Jan. 1, 1883. 10 p. O.

Contains a note on "English and American history for children," from Miss Hewins's forthcoming "Books for the young."

HILDEBURN, C. R. List of the issues of the press in Pennsylvania, 1735-59. (Pages 75-100 of *PHILA. LIB. Co. Bulletin*, Jan.)

HUTT, A. Granger. *La Rochefoucauld and his English translators*. (Pages 166-171 of *Bibliographer*, Nov. 1882.)

LAMA, C. de. *Bibliothèque des écrivains de la Congrégation de Saint-Maur*. Paris, Palmé, 1882. 261 p. 12°. 5 fr.

LEIST, Dr. F: *Urkundenlehre: Katechismus der Diplomatik, Paläographie, Chronologie, und Sphragistik*. Lpz., J. J. Weber, 1882. 12+305 p+10 plates. 8°. 4 m. (Illustrirte Katechismen.)

The materials employed by the scribes of the middle ages, the styles of writing at various epochs, the conventional forms of address, the numerous methods of computing dates, the different varieties of seals, etc., are all described

in a systematic and accurate manner. The illustrations consist of folded tables of fac-similes of chrismes, monograms, and signatures of German monarchs and notable persons taken from original documents in the Royal Archives at Munich.—*Monthly notes.*

Reviewed not favorably in *Deutsche Littg.*, col. 1825, "Angehende Archivbeamte sowol wie junge Historiker müssen gewarnt werden ihre diplomatischen Kenntnisse allein aus diesem Katechismus zu schöpfen."

LE PETIT, Jules. Bibliographie des éditions originales d'auteurs français du 15^e au 18^e siècle. Paris, E. Maillet, 1882. 8°. 50 fr.

Contains an exact reproduction of the title-pages of the original editions of about 300 masterpieces of French literature, from the Roman de la Rose and Villon to the works of Beaumarchais and Saint-Pierre. The form is that of Brunet's Manuel du libraire. Gives the necessary information with regard to the original editions and their market value.

PHILOBIBLOS, *ps.* The book-lover's enchiridion; thoughts on the solace and companionship of books, selected and chronologically arranged. London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 1882. 240 p. 32°. 4s. 6d.; 5s. 6.

"The selection is very catholic. Somebody should give us next a book-hater's enchiridion, beginning with Solomon."—*Acad.*

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY. *Monthly reference lists.* Vols. 1 and 2. Jan., 1881-Dec., 1882. [Ed. by W. E. Foster, A.B., Brown University.] O.

"A graduate of Brown University, Mr. Foster, early turned his attention to the practical details of a librarian's office in a Massachusetts town, whence he was called by sharp-sighted men, who saw the advantage of his methods, to the Public library in Providence, to mediate between the intellectual wants of a highly cultivated city and the literary supply which libraries and book markets afford. The trustees of the Providence Public Library, some of whom are the owners of superb private libraries, appear to have appreciated the idea that the collection and distribution of literature, in a wide sense, requires talent on the part of the librarian, the very best talent that school, college, and practical experience can afford. They seem to have recognized the fact that a public library is the *highest school* in the community, that it requires the highest education and the highest art available; for the public library reaches not merely school children, but pupils of a larger growth; it holds in its hands the highest education of the town or city. Ignorance, incompetence, feebleness, sluggishness, incapacity for success in any other profession, are no qualification for the modern librarian, who is or should be one of the quickest, readiest, brightest, most alive of all live men in the community, for he is the one who can supply and develop its highest

intellectual wants by proper methods of mediation between literature and life.

"It is perhaps highly significant that a college town like Providence, whence Dr. Barnas Sears, a former president of Brown University, went forth to propagate a common school system throughout the entire South, under the direction of the trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, of which Dr. Sears was the pioneer agent, should have also given birth to one of the most efficient systems of library management, which, if there is any virtue in good ideas, is bound to widen its influence. The efficiency of the Providence Public library in supplying intellectual wants is indicated by the published reference lists, the genesis of which cannot be separated from Brown University, the common school system, and the general culture of a liberally minded city. Mr. Foster, although he came to Providence with a thorough knowledge of that admirable system of classifying library materials for ready reference on the part of readers—a system evolved from the experience of the Boston Public Library under the management of Justin Winsor—found it necessary to meet in peculiar ways the needs of teachers and students who desired to read very specially in connection with courses of lectures given by President Robinson, Professors Lincoln and others, including the late Professor Diman, whose catholic scholarship, admired in Baltimore and Cambridge, was also appreciated at home. The cordial co-operation of such men with Mr. Foster's methods, the encouragement of trustees intimately associated with University professors, the wants and appreciation of an intelligent public, explain the development in Providence of that elaborate system of reference lists, newspaper clippings, notices and reviews of new books,—all conveniently posted or classified, so that by means of these guides the reader can find his way with confidence and delight through the intricate mazes of modern literature. From manuscript reference lists it was but a step to hectograph copies distributed for use in the public schools. Then came the publication of bibliographies in the Providence newspapers, which carried the suggestion of systematic courses of readings into every household in the city. These things are all very simple and inexpensive; but they represent *ideas*, which are of vastly more influence upon a living and progressive age than mere collections of books, however extensive, of mere library buildings of brick and stone, which are sometimes mausoleums instead of laboratories of knowledge.

"Through the aid of appreciative friends of the Providence idea, Mr. Foster began in January, 1881, to publish his *Monthly reference lists* in serial form upon a folded sheet, the two leaves of which with double columns, are of about the same size as the pages of the *Magazine of American history*. The transition to this special form of publication was made through such organs as the *Library journal* which allows some space to bibliographical matter. But the Providence idea of special adaptation to special

needs has now assumed individual and concrete form. Evolving from the Providence environment, this idea has seized upon topics of current interest in that city; it has grown upon what it has fed; until now, in the shape of two published volumes, with tables of contents, indices, and an explanatory preface, it represents a bibliographical magazine which no American library or special student of contemporary American life can well do without. It is curious and interesting to one who turns the leaves of these two little volumes, to see with what unerring instinct the Providence librarian, from month to month, has grasped topics uppermost in the American current of ideas or popular discussion. A few examples will suffice to recall the drift of thought in many a home and literary circle during the past two years: George Eliot, Thomas Carlyle, Lord Beaconsfield, Revision of the Bible, Sophocles ('the Greek Play' at Harvard), Comets, the French in Tunis, Dean Stanley, Centenary of Kant, Protection, Yorktown, Olympia, French Allies, Inter-Oceanic Canal, Aestheticism, Longfellow, Chinese Question, South Eastern Europe, Darwin, Emerson, University Education, Local Self-Government, Herbert Spencer, etc.

"It takes a librarian who is alive to present issues, to the swiftly moving and cosmopolitan thought of the present age, to catch such current topics, and to gather about them the floating literature of our times for the convenient use of his fellow men. Such talent is as rare as it is invaluable. A good librarian is an organizer of literary materials, and his influence is far from being local, if he publishes, as Mr. Foster has done, the results of his local experience. It is curious to observe how the supply of Providence wants has met also the needs of a national circle of readers; for the reference lists are now widely patronized throughout this country, especially by students, teachers and librarians. It is also curious to note, in this current of popular bibliography, the 'survival' of lists which, although of sufficient scope to interest students outside of Providence, are clearly the original production of local occasions, lecture courses and the like, which, at one time or another, have particularly interested the schools and people of Providence.

"The most noticeable and perhaps the most valuable feature of Mr. Foster's reference lists is the topical subdivision of the main subject. For a student or teacher, the 'structural bibliography' is much more valuable and suggestive than a long list of authorities, which, in some cases, would be hardly better than a catalogue. For example, the subject of American 'Local Self-Government' is much better treated under the subdivisions of 'Origin,' 'Tendencies,' 'New England Towns,' 'Middle Colonies,' 'Southern Colonies,' than under the main head alone, for the structural method presents the subject from different points of view, and yet as an organic whole. This structural method stands in the same relation to the generic subject of study as that subject does to study in general. A catalogue of mere names or a long bibliogra-

phy of authorities is often very discouraging to readers, but when attention is called to a *particular* subject, to a *special* point of view, and to an *individual* author, then a point has been made for the encouragement of readers and of original research. The most important function which any catalogue, bibliography, reference list, or consulting librarian can discharge, is to arrest attention, to make mental points. Mr. Foster distinctly says in his preface that his reference lists 'are intended as *working-lists* and not as bibliographies.' He does not aim at being exhaustive, or exhausting, but as being suggestive. Mr. Foster has well said in the *Library Journal* (7: 86), the bibliography 'aims at completeness for the sake of completeness;' but the working-list is as complete as it serves its purpose to be.' The purpose of Mr. Foster is manifestly that of a practical librarian, desiring to aid a reading public, and not that of a scientific specialist, a mere antiquarian bibliomaniac, desiring to collect or amass *all* existing authorities for the sake of having them at his command.

"Scientific *point* in the description of books, monographs, magazine articles is of more consequence to most readers than bibliographical enumeration or catalogue completeness. A reader does not want *all* books; he wants the *best*, and more especially *one or two* at a time, with special reference to particular things that may be found within them. A skilful librarian and a well-guided reader will not find it necessary to read many books through, from beginning to end, in order to get at their point or drift. Most books should be used like cyclopædias, for finding special things, not for learning all knowledge at once. A good book should have an index of topics. A good librarian, like Mr. Foster and many others in this country, will show the reader a subject-catalogue, a ready-reference-list, a definite way of finding out special things through some particular book. A poor librarian will be more likely to show his library *en masse* or in glass cases, saying 'hands off;' if the visitor wants to learn something in particular, he is invited to examine a confusing catalogue of authors' names and see if he can chance upon any book that will help him. The good librarian knows what his books are good for; he has *point*. The poor librarian is careless, ignorant and dull. A good method of ready reference is like a bright, sharp needle in a skilful hand, deftly working some fine or useful end; a poor method is like hunting for a needle in a haystack."—*Herbert B. Adams*, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, in the *N. E. hist. and geneal. register*, Jan.

SHORT, J. T. Historical reference lists for the use of students in the Ohio State University. Columbus, O., A. H. Smythe, 1882. D. pap., 40 c.

"The lists are as full as the resources of the State library would admit."—*Prefatory note*.

SORMANNI, Giacomo. Catalogo ragionato delle opere di viticoltura ed enologia pub. in Italia o

in italiano dal principio della stampa sino a tutto l'anno 1881. 1a dispensa. Milano, Gernia, 1882. 16 p. 8°.

THEDEN, Dietrich. Führer durch die Jugendliteratur, Winke für Gründung, Einrichtung, u. Fortführung einschlägiger Bibliotheken u. Verzeichniss empfehlenswerther Schriften. Hamb., Berendsohn, 1883. 3 l+79 p. 1.50 m.

HEINEMANN'S Faust bibliography (*Lib. jnl.*, 7: 276) is also reprinted, L., Stock, 1882. pp. 31. 16°.

THE RUSSIAN bibliography, the publication of which was suspended last March, will reappear this year.

Dr. A. SCHROETER'S "Geschichte der deutschen Homer-Uebersetzung im 18. Jahrhundert" (Jena, Costenoble) contains a tabular view of the translations of Homer issued between 1495 and 1881.

The *Archivio paleografico italiano*, has just issued its first no., ed. by Sig. E. Monaci, and pub. by Loescher & Co., of Rome. It contains fourteen heliotype plates, reproducing in facsimile various documents of importance for the history of writing in Italy.—*Acad.*

Catalogs and cataloging.

BROOKLYN (N. Y.) L. Bulletin of new books.

No. 16. [Br.] Jan.-Aug., 1882. 11+[1] p. 1 O.

Total no. of v. 64,400.

BROOKLYN L. Music bulletin. No. 1. [Br.,] 1882. [4] p. 1 O.

A new departure. "The music is intended, like books, for circulation."

GERMANY. REICHSGERICHT. Katalog der Bibliothek, von K. Schulz. Lpz., Breitkopf & Härtel, 1882. 65+1037 p. 8°. 15 m.

How to compile a library catalogue. (In *British and colonial printer and stationer*, Dec. 14.) 1½ col.

Milk for babes, and very thin milk. The remarks on printing are the best: "The expense of printing a catalogue containing two entries for each book, as is now recommended, would be about £5 for 500 copies, and £4 for 250 copies. A catalogue in which the books are only entered once would cost, for 500 copies about £3, and for 250 copies £2 10s. As far as most libraries are concerned, it is to be recommended that the larger number should be printed, even although not more than 100 copies are likely to be sold. A loss is inevitable in any case. But this first outlay may be turned into an ultimate gain. If the library is in its infancy, its future proportions may be greater than its present managers anticipate. One promising method of extending it would be to distribute the catalogue pretty freely. Some copies might go among

probable donors of books; there is almost a certainty that some at least of the extra expense would be recouped in gifts. Other copies might be sent to publishers, authors, secretaries of publishing societies, etc., and that there would be returns in the shape of presents could hardly be doubted. Other copies might be sent to the press, and notices might be obtained, which would in various ways be beneficial. Many other reasons might be adduced for getting out a good, useful, respectable, and creditable catalogue—especially when the expense is comparatively so trifling—the extreme difference between the largest number of the best catalogue and the smallest number of the worst catalogue being only 50s. The better catalogue, too, would sell the best."

Not so good is the following: "The numbering of the volumes on the shelves of a library ought to be consecutive throughout, and entirely irrespective of divisions into classes. If the other plan is adopted of classifying books on the shelves, besides the waste of time and labor and the disfigurement of the books by occasional fresh numbering, there will be a loss of space. Quarto books may have to be placed next to octavos. Indeed no useful object whatever would be gained by rearranging the localities of the books."

RIEU, C: Catalogue of the Persian mss. in the British Museum. Vol. 2. L., 1881. 7+ (433-877) p. 4°.

"Le t. 2 est executé sur le même plan que le premier et mérite les mêmes éloges."—*E. Fagnan in Rev. crit.*

BODLEIAN LIBRARY. Accession lists of new foreign purchases, and of the most interesting purchases of old works, will be posted in both reading-rooms. The 723 vols. of the catalogue are being paged, and an officer will be employed for some years to come in revising all headings and titles, and indexing all extensive articles. For accessions, the cataloguing rules of the L. A. U. K. will be adopted, with only such modifications as are essential to the catalogue; the practicability of introducing print will also be considered. The sorting of the spare set of slips which are to form a subject-catalogue is being rapidly expedited by a special extra staff; whether they shall be laid down in volumes or on cards is undecided. The long-designed classified rearrangement of the library will be carried out (as intended) by first arranging the slips relating to a subject, and then bringing the books on it into a corresponding order.

FULL NAMES.—W: Rattle Plum (The military telegraph during the civil war in the U. S.); Alfred Hix Welsh (Development of English language and literature); W: Mather Scott (ed. of Van Santvoord's Sketches of the lives of the chief justices of the U. S.); Rafael Arroyo Bayley (National loans of the U. S.); C: G: Mayers (Mendota, the spirit of the lake); G: Washington Hunter (Divine liturgy in the book of common prayer); Gideon Delaplaine Scull (The Evelyns in America.)

Library Purchase-List.

A SELECTION OF NEW BOOKS, WITH NOTES OF
COMMENDATION OR CAUTION.

Books mentioned without notes can, as a rule, be safely purchased for the general reader. The binding, unless otherwise expressed, is generally understood to be in cloth.

AMICIS, Edmondo de. *Military life in Italy: sketches*; tr. by W. W. Cady. N. Y., Putnam. il. D. \$2.

"In his sketches of military life De Amicis discloses dramatic gifts which have not been suspected by the readers of his books of travel."—*Christian union*.

ARNOLD, Edwin. *Pearls of the faith; or, Islam's rosary*. Bost., Roberts. S. \$1.

"Completes his Oriental trilogy. The first part is 'The light of Asia,' the second part 'The Indian song of songs.' In this the poet tells the beads of a pious Muslim, each bead representing one of the 'ninety-nine beautiful names of Allah.' The legends and instructions inculcate the gentle virtues that make life lovely—courtesy, humility, hospitality, care for the poor and the ill, kindness to dumb animals, perfect manners in social intercourse."—*Boston Advertiser*.

AUSTIN, G. L., M.D. *Water-analysis; a handbook for water-drinkers*. Bost., Lee & Shepard. sq. T. 50 c.

A ready method of determining the wholesomeness and unwholesomeness of water for drinking purposes; for persons who are not professional chemists.

AUSTIN, Jane G. *Nantucket scraps: being the experiences of an off-islander, in season and out of season, among a passing people*. Bost., Osgood. sq. S. \$1.50.

"She writes pleasantly of the sea and the moors; and tells the stories that the Nantucket captains told to her."—*Boston Advertiser*.

"There is a pleasant briny flavor about this little book, ... but it is wofully padded."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

BEOWULF: an Anglo-Saxon poem; [also] *The fight at Finnsburg*; tr. by Ja. M. Garnett; with fac-simile of the unique MS. in the British Museum, Cotton. Vitellius AXV. Bost., Ginn, Heath & Co. D. \$1.

A line-for-line translation, in rhythmical form.

BISHOP, W. H. *The house of a merchant prince: a novel of New York*. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. D. \$1.50.

"A picture of N. Y. society drawn with great care and giving a companion picture in a somewhat soberer vein to the 'Fender recollections of Irene McGillivuddy,' 'The confessions of a frivolous girl,' etc."—*Boston Advertiser*.

BJÖRNSON, Björnsterne. *Magnhild; from the Norse* by Rasmus B. Anderson. *Author's ed.* Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. S. \$1.

Closes the present series of Björnson's works.

BRACE, C. Loring. *Gesta Christi; or, a history of humane progress under Christianity*. N. Y., Armstrong. O. \$2.50.

"What we have been accustomed to say in sweeping phrases about the indebtedness of mankind to the beneficent influence of Christianity is here made definite and particularized, supported by facts and given authorities."—*N. Y. Times*.

BROOKE, Stopford. *English literature; American ed.*, rev. and brought to date by Frank Gilbert. Chic., Fairbanks, Palmer & Co. S. (Literature manuals.) flex. cl., 40 c.

BROWN, J., M.D. *Spare hours. 3d ser.* Locke and Sydenham, and other papers. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. S. \$1.50.

BULL, Sara C. *Ole Bull: a memoir; with Ole Bull's "Violin notes" and Dr. A. B. Crosby's "Anatomy of the violinist."* Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. O. \$2.50.

"A sketch of the personal history of the man, rather than an attempt to analyze the qualities of his art or to define his place in the history of music."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

CAMPBELL, Helen. *The problem of the poor: a record of quiet work in unquiet places*. N. Y., Fords, Howard & Hulbert. sq. S. 90 c.

"An account of the McAuley Mission and its work in N. Y. Five Points; with sketches and stories taken from actual experience among the poor and criminal; also clear, practical discussion of modes of helping the poor."—*Publishers' weekly*.

CHURCH, Ella Rodman. *The home needle*. N. Y., Appleton. il. D. (Appleton's home books.) 60 c.

"Confines itself to plain sewing and useful needlework."

CONWAY, Moncure Daniel. *Emerson at home and abroad*. Bost., Osgood. D. \$1.50.

"It is not a criticism; it is not the dispassionate decision of the judge; it is the enthusiastic offering of one who was roused by Emerson into higher life, and who delights in honoring his master."—*Boston Advertiser*.

"We are introduced to the whole galaxy of famous personages with whom he had anything to do—Carlyle, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Landor, Sir Arthur Helps, Max Müller, Tyndall, Darwin, Huxley, besides Hawthorne, Thoreau, Channing, Parker, Ripley, and the whole transcendental world."—*Boston Transcript*.

COOK, Joel. *England, picturesque and descriptive: a reminiscence of foreign travel, with [487] il.* Phil., Porter & Coates. Q. \$7.50.

CRAWFORD, F. Marion. *Mr. Isaacs: a tale of modern India*. N. Y., Macmillan. D. \$1.

"The author had the opportunity, as the editor of an Anglo-Indian newspaper, of becoming acquainted with the land and the people of India. These pictures and studies of Anglo-Indian life are exceedingly vivid."—*Christian intelligence*.

"A fine and noble story."—*Literary World*.

DAHLGREN, Madeleine Vinton. *Memoir of John A. Dahlgren, Rear-Admiral, U. S. N.*, by his widow. Bost., Osgood. il. O. \$3.

DOBSON, Austin, ed. *Eighteenth century essays; selected and annotated by Austin Dobson*. N. Y., Appleton. S. (Parchment ser.) \$1.25.

"A perfect book, not only in its outward appearance, its type, its paper, and its chaste vellum binding, but in its contents—in the singular skill with which its selections have been made, and in the thorough scholarship which distinguishes the introduction and the notes of its accomplished editor, Mr. Austin Dobson."—*R. H. Stoddard in the Mail and express*.

DONNELLY, Ignatius. *Ragnarok: the age of fire and gravel*. N. Y., Appleton. D. \$2.

"It is something like what one of Jules Verne's books would be if that author should stoutly protest that the story was all true. ... On the whole, 'Ragnarok' is too absurd to do much mischief, and contains much that is readable, and that may in a certain way prove instructive; that is, it may serve to kindle an interest in some minds upon subjects to which they would not be attracted by ordinary didactic treatises."—*Popular science monthly*.

DOUGLAS, Rob. K. *China*. N. Y., Young. map and il. D. net, \$1.50.

DOYLE, J. A. *English colonies in America; Virginia, Maryland, and the Carolinas*. N. Y., Holt. O. \$3.50.

"If the undertaking be completed in the spirit in which it has been begun, it will not be a work remarkable for originality of treatment or brilliancy of execution, but it will be a compact, orderly, and thoroughly useful contribution to historical study."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

DRESSER, Christopher. Japan: its architecture, art, and art manufactures. (Lond.) N. Y., Scribner & Welford. il. O. \$10.

"Though it reads something like a volume of travel, it is not intended to be anything more than a comprehensive and technical account of the condition and progress of the country's arts—industrial and architectural particularly—and their influence upon modern designing methods. The illustrations are all by Japanese artists, and are exceptionally well engraved and printed."—*Literary world*.

"These pages are as interesting as any to be found in Miss Bird's well-told narrative."—*N. Y. Times*.

FLETCHER, Mrs. Eliza Dawson. Autobiography. [New issue.] Bost., Roberts. S. \$1.50.

Mrs. Fletcher was the wife of a learned Scotch lawyer and staunch Whig, and was herself an enthusiast in politics. Her autobiography derives its chief interest from her friendships and correspondence with literary people and celebrities.

FORD, Worthington C., ed. The American citizen's manual. Pt. 1: Governments (national, state and local), the electorate, the civil service. N. Y., Putnam. D. (Questions of the day.) \$1.

GARDNER, E. C. The house that Jill built, after Jack's had proved a failure; a book on home architecture. N. Y., Fords, Howard & Hulbert. il. sq. S. (Our continent lib.) \$1.50.

A series of papers showing how, in building houses that are to be truly homes, it is possible to combine architectural beauty with wise and economical construction.

GEIKIE, Archibald. Text-book of geology. N. Y., Macmillan. il. O. net, \$7.50.

"Minute and wonderfully detailed accurate observation, combined with an almost poetic ability to express himself in words."—*Independent*.

GILBERT, Frank. American literature. Chic., Fairbanks, Palmer & Co. S. (Literature manuals.) 50 c.

GLÜMER, Claire von. A noble name; or, Dönnighausen; from the German by Mrs. A. L. Wister. Phil., Lippincott. D. \$1.50.

"The book is little above the average, but it will not come amiss to people who must have a novel."—*N. Y. Post*.

HARDY, T. Two on a tower: a novel. N. Y., Holt. S. (Leisure hour ser.) \$1.

HASELL, E. J. Tasso. Phil., Lippincott. S. (For. classics for Eng. readers.) \$1.

HAWTHORNE, Nathaniel. Doctor Grimshawe's secret: a romance; ed., with preface and notes, by Julian Hawthorne. Bost., Osgood. D. \$1.50.

"There can be little doubt that Hawthorne's judgment was correct when he laid the work aside as unsatisfactory."—*Examiner*.

HENDERSON, Howard. Practical hints on camping. Chic., Jansen, McClurg & Co. D. \$1.25.

"Intended to meet all the wants of gunners, fishermen, and photographers on an excursion."

HOLLEY, G. W. The falls of Niagara; [and] cata-racts. N. Y., Armstrong. il. O. \$3.

KENNEDY, W. Sloane. John Greenleaf Whittier: his life, genius, and writings. Bost., Cassino. O. \$1.50.

"A just, temperate, and interesting account of the career of the poet and reformer, together with an excellent analysis of his writings in prose and verse."—*Boston Traveller*.

KOHLER, S. R., comp. The United States art directory and year-book; guide for artists,

art students, travellers, etc. N. Y., Cassell, O. pap., 50 c.

"A monument of facts and patient collaboration. The author gives first a list of academies, art schools, museums, art clubs, etc., arranged nationally and locally; next, a directory of artists; and, afterwards, an art-teachers' directory, necrology of artists for the past year, books on art, art journals, the copyright law as applied to art productions, coming exhibitions, statistical table of former exhibitions, etc. The treatment of all societies, artists, etc., is generous and impartial; and in general the information is full and accurate."—*Boston Commonwealth*.

L'ESTRANGE, Rev. A. G., ed. The friendships of Mary Russell Mitford, as recorded in letters from her literary correspondents. N. Y. Q. (Harper's Franklin sq. lib.) pap., 25 c.

"A great deal of amusing gossip, much criticism of various quality, and pleasant glimpses of character."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

LINTON, W. J. The history of wood-engraving in America. il. Bost., Estes & Lauriat, 1882. \$7.50.

"Mr. Linton's treatment is too persistently critical and too highly colored to be called a history. . . . Abounds in matter of historical interest, and is throughout suggestive and instructive."—*Harper's magazine*.

LINTON, W. J., ed. Rare poems of the 16th and 17th centuries; a supplement to the anthologies; collected and edited, with notes, by W. J. Linton. Bost., Roberts. il. sq. S. \$2. A reprint, with additions, of his "Golden apples of Hesperus," of which a limited edition was printed some time ago.

LITTLE sister. Bost., Roberts Bros. S. (No name [third ser.]) \$1.

"Quiet domestic story, illustrating the good influence one sunny-tempered, unselfish, industrious woman can exercise."

LOUNSBURY, T. R. James Fenimore Cooper. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co. S. (Am. men of letters.) \$1.25.

"Excellent critical analysis. . . . In regard to his history of our navy . . . we come upon a serious blot in Professor Lounsbury's book. He is evidently not aware that Mr. Roosevelt, in his elaborate history of the war of 1812, had put a new face on the matter, and shown that Cooper was not seldom at fault."—*Boston Advertiser*.

MCCOSH, James, D.D. Criteria of diverse kinds of truth as opposed to agnosticism: treatise on applied logic. N. Y., Scribner. D. (Philosophic ser.) pap., 50 c.

The first of a series to be published quarterly, in pamphlet of about 60 pages each, in stout paper covers, at 50 cents per volume, each embracing an exposition, complete in itself, of one theme.

MARTENSEN, H., M.D. Christian ethics. Special part, second division: Social ethics; tr. by S. Taylor. N. Y., Scribner & Welford. O. \$3.

MARTINEAU, Ja. Study of Spinoza. N. Y., Macmillan. D. \$2.

"A help to those who wish to study Spinoza for themselves rather than as an account of his doctrines dispensing from such study."—*Academy*.

MORISON, Ja. Cotter. [Thomas Babington] Macaulay. N. Y., Harper. D. (English men of letters.) 75 c.

"Very interesting and generally judicious. . . . If Mr. Morison has not always found his author's faults with acuteness, he has often praised him with a cordiality and justice that other critics might do well to imitate."—*Saturday review*.

OLIPHANT, Mrs. M. O. W. A little pilgrim, etc. Bost., Roberts. S. 75 c.

"When so short a sketch as this is made the subject of

more than one leading article in a magazine like the *Spectator*, and when an American theological review gravely sets itself to the task of discussing its theology, there is some reason for thinking that the little book is worth reading."—*Sunday-school times*.

OLIVER, Mrs. G. A. A study of Maria Edgeworth, with notices of her father and friends. Bost., Williams. D. \$2.25.

"Mrs. Oliver has performed for a once famous and now too much neglected writer a service that will give a fresh interest to her works, and perpetuate a wholly charming and estimable character."—*Boston Gazette*.

PALMER, Henrietta Lee. Home-life in the Bible; ed. by J. Williamson Palmer. Bost., Osgood. il. O. \$3.50.

"One of the most useful and interesting of recent illustrated works . . . relating to the homes and the home-life of the people of whom any mention is made in the Old and New Testaments."—*Harper's magazine*.

PHILLIPS, Lawrence B. Index of biographical reference, over 100,000 names, together with a classed index of the biographical literature of Europe and America. 2d ed., with necrology of eminent persons for the last ten years. N. Y., Worthington. O. \$3.75.

PRENTISS, ELIZABETH. Life and letters. N. Y., Randolph. sq. D. \$2.25.

"Among her 17 volumes the one which best represents her life and work was 'Stepping heavenward.'"—*N. Y. Times*.

RACHEL'S share of the road. Bost., Osgood. (Round robin ser.) \$1.

"A story treating of the conflict between capital and labor."

RAWLINSON, G. The seventh great Oriental monarchy; or, the geography, history, and antiquities of the Sassanian or New Persian empire. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co. 2 v. map and il. O. \$6.

"Completes the author's ancient history of the East. It is a sequel to the Parthians, and carries down the history of Western Asia from the third century of our era to the middle of the seventh."

REID, Christian [*ps.* for Frances Fisher.] Heart of steel: a novel. N. Y., Appleton. S. \$1.25.

The scene is chiefly in Paris and Rome, although the principal characters are Americans.

RICHARDSON, Abby Sage, ed. Old love letters; or, letters of sentiment, written by persons eminent in English literature and history. Bost., Osgood. T. \$1.25.

"Mrs. Richardson has edited the letters with taste and skill, her brief introductions and comments adding much to the interest and value of the collection."—*N. Y. Tribune*.

RIDDELL, Mrs. J. H. Daisies and buttercups: a novel. N. Y. Q. (Harper's Franklin sq. and Seaside libs.) pap., 20 c.

SCHAFF, Philip, D.D., and Gilman, Arthur, ed. Library of religious poetry: the best poems of all ages and tongues; with biographical and literary notes. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co. il. O. \$5.

Nearly 800 poets represented.

SCHMID, Rudolf. The theories of Darwin, and their relation to philosophy, religion, and morality; from the German by G. A. Zimmermann; with an introduction by the Duke of Argyll. Chic., Jansen, McClurg & Co. D. \$2.

"A historical and critical essay on Darwinism. The

historical part contains a clear statement of the theories of descent, of evolution, and of natural selection. . . .

Another valuable feature of the work is the distinction which it draws between the purely scientific question of the origin of species and the philosophical supplements which are found in the systems of many scientific men."—*Christian union*.

STEELE, Jas. W. Frontier army sketches. Chic., Jansen, McClurg & Co. 328 p. D. cl. \$1.50.

"A book dealing with frontier life, which, while saturated with the flavor of adventure and the breath of the plains, manages to keep its pages free of the taint of dime-novel 'blood and thunder.' Of particular excellence are the papers on men of the border and on New Mexican common life."—*American*.

STEVENSON, Rob. L. New Arabian nights. N. Y., Holt. S. (Leisure hour ser.) \$1.

"Undoubtedly a clever work, the attractiveness of which is not very easy to explain. The stories are not humorous, nor funny, nor witty, and yet they have the great merit of holding the reader's attention. They are tantalizing and deceptive."—*Athenaeum*.

THOMSON, W. M., M.D. The land and the book; or, biblical illustrations drawn from the manners and customs, the scenes and scenery of the Holy Land. [V. 2]: Central Palestine and Phœnicia. N. Y., Harper. il. and m ps, sq. O. \$6; shp., \$7.

The second volume of the new octavo edition of "The land and the book," of which the first volume appeared in 1880 with the sub-title: "Southern Palestine and Jerusalem." The original edition of the work was published in 1859, in 2 v., 12°. The new edition is substantially a new work.

VAN DYKE, Theodore S. The still-hunter. N. Y., Fords, Howard & Hulbert. D. \$2.

Elaborate and practical treatise on deer-stalking.

WASHBURN, Emelyn W. Studies in early English literature. N. Y., Putnam. O. \$1.50.

"A series of studies, touching on the language of the Saxons as it grew, as well as on the growth of its literature. There is much dull reading in the Saxon and Norman poetry. The author recognizes this, and the reader's patience is not much tried by long quotations made solely to illustrate the dulness of the times, but he is occasionally regaled with some of the fine bits of poetry, chosen with toil and skill."—*Critic*.

WATSON, John. Schelling's transcendental idealism: a critical exposition. Chic., Griggs. S. (German philos. classics.) cl., \$1.25.

"In tracing the development of Schelling's speculations through Kant and Fichte, the author offers convenient summaries that will be found useful by the most advanced scholars. And the study of Schelling is justly regarded as of chief value as an introduction to Hegel, to whose works several volumes in this series will be devoted."—*Boston Traveller*.

WILSON, Andrew. Chapters on evolution: a popular history of Darwinism and allied theories of development. N. Y., Putnam. O. \$2.50.

"It is certain to prove helpful to all general students of the subject of organic development. . . . It is more properly confined to that phase or section of evolution which has come to be represented by the term 'Darwinism,' and is a book that should be ranked with Professor Gray's 'Darwiniana,' and Oscar Schmidt's German volume on 'Descent and Darwinism.' There should be no confusion here, for Darwinism is not evolution, and is but a part of it."—*Popular science monthly*.

WOODBERRY, G. E. A history of wood-engraving. N. Y., Harper. il. sq. O. \$3.50.

"When so many examples of wood engraving of all sorts are forced upon us daily it is well to learn something about wood-engraving itself, and this is what Mr. Woodberry's book enables us to do readily."—*N. Y. Mail and express*.

"An admirable manual."—*Independent*.

Notes and Queries.

I SHOULD like some forms or information in reference to best methods of charging and keeping record of books issued from a circulating library of 800 to 1000 volumes, the rates usually charged for books per week or yearly subscriptions.

H. T. C.

BODLEY'S LIBRARIAN has substituted half morocco binding for half calf, and has devised a new cheap binding for tracts, etc.—paper boards with parchment back. All printed volumes containing several distinct works (not being homogeneous tracts) are now broken up on re-binding.

PAINTED CLASS NUMBERS. (*See Lib. jnl.* 7: 273.) I forgot to add that I paint at a uniform height and breadth, so that the books on shelf show an even horizontal streak. I began at heel of book, but the hand of the public quickly grimed and erased it, so I now put it two and a half inches above the shelf. N.B.—It often covers up the title, but the public does not go to our shelves.

I can't say exactly the cost of my painting, but it cannot be more than about one fifth of a cent per vol. for the labor, and I can lower that one third at least by using not quite so skilful a limner. This does not include the two paints and one varnish; but the cost of the materials is perhaps ten dollars for ten thousand vols. My two painters can do from 125 to 150 vols. an hour, and the label outlasts more than ten paper ones.

F. B. P.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Guernsey, N. Y., 1882. D.—"Mr. F. J. Stimson, a young Boston lawyer, is thought to be the author."

Sketches of Yale College, N. Y., 1843, S., is by Ezekiel Porter Belden, a graduate of Yale in class of 1844.—*J. Edmands*.

Shirley Dare.—Susan C. (Dunning) Power.

Socrates [Sel. from Plato's *Apology of Socrates*; *Crito*; and *Phædo*]. Boston, Roberts, 1882. T. (Wisdom series).—The compiler is Mrs. Mary Wilder Foote Tileston.—*H. H. W.*

A transplanted rose [from *Harper's Bazar*] N. Y., 1882, S., which has been ascribed to Edgar Fawcett and to Mrs. Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, is by Mrs. M. E. W. Sherwood, a lady familiar with the best circles of New York society, and who knows whereof she speaks.—*Harper's Bazar*.

HAYNES, J. E: Pseudonyms of authors; including anonyms and initialisms. New York, 1882. 112 p. O.

5000 pen and true names, together with, in many cases, the dates of birth, and, where death has occurred, the dates of death. He covers the past as well as the present. Includes phrases, such as 'A country clergyman.'

General Notes.

THE JAPANESE Government have resolved upon establishing public libraries in every provincial capital throughout the empire.—*Ath.*

THE ADVOCATE'S LIBRARY in Edinburgh is about to be considerably enlarged, to accommodate the constantly increasing addition of books to its shelves.

Sir G. GREY, not content with presenting a library to the Cape of Good Hope, has now given another to the citizens of Auckland; it comprises many rare and beautiful works.

THE PARIS municipal libraries established in the mairies are increasingly used. In 1880-1 they reported less than 243,000 volumes lent; in 1881-2, they report 363,322, of which 283,443 were for home use.

If WEIMAR should be the home selected for the great Library of the German Empire, which the Allgemeine Deutsche Schriftsteller Verband is trying to found, the Grand Duke has promised to give the site for a building.

KANSAS CITY, we hear, does not support its library by means of a billiard-hall annex, as we were incorrectly informed last March (*L. j.*, 7: 51). We see no reason why a library should not derive an increase from a *properly managed* billiard-room any more than from a chess-room.

THE SHAKSPEARIAN library of Colonel E. H. Thomson of Flint, Mich., has been purchased by Mr. James McMillan, of Detroit, for presentation to the University of Michigan. The owner had refused \$20,000 for it previously, and declined to sell it for any sum unless for some public institution.—*Boston Transcript*.

LECTURES in libraries should, one would think, be a powerful stimulus to study, and we are glad to learn that the experiment tried last winter in connection with the Salford Free Library is to be repeated. A course of twelve lectures will be delivered between October and March. The subjects range over travels, geography, history, and literature.—*Ath.*

THE SOCIETY of Sons of St. George, at Philadelphia determined, Oct. 23, to found a library in their handsome St. George's Hall. They had already received many donations from booksellers and others in London. The history of the United States has been too often treated as if it began with the Declaration of Independence, and they therefore wish to bring together works of English authors dealing with the controversy on this side of the Atlantic, and with the principles, dating far back in the common history, on which the discussions were based and the details of the American Constitution and legislation were founded. They hope at a later time to obtain works illustrative of the stay of the Americans in England and their influence on the mother country. Separate funds are to be devoted to the library, so as not to trench on the benevolent functions of the institution.—*Ath.*